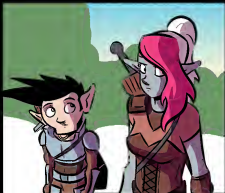


Newman

BY JOSH ULRICH







HEY, KATURYN.
I THINK I NEED TO
TALK WITH GHEN. MAYBE
YOU SHOULD TAKE THE
OTHERS ON A SIDE
QUEST OR
SOMETHING.







A comic panel with a black background at the top. In the foreground, a woman with dark hair in a ponytail, wearing a red hooded cloak, stands with her right arm extended, pointing towards the left. She has a surprised or concerned expression. In the lower right, a man with dark hair and large, pointed ears is peeking out from behind a green bush. He has a wide-eyed, curious expression. A large speech bubble from the woman contains the text: "YOU TWO SHOULD TAKE A STROLL UP THAT PASS. I'LL MEET BACK UP WITH YOU LATER." A smaller speech bubble from the man contains the text: "THANKS". The background consists of a green field and a light blue sky.

YOU TWO
SHOULD TAKE
A STROLL UP THAT
PASS. I'LL MEET BACK
UP WITH YOU
LATER.

THANKS

LET'S
TAKE A
WALK.

WE'VE
BEEN WALKING
FOR LIKE TWO
DAYS.





I MEANT
LIKE— JUST
WALK WITH
ME.













I KNOW
YOUR TYPE. YOU'RE
PLAYING GAMES WITH ME.
TRYING TO GET IN
MY HEAD.





WELL
NOT THIS HEAD
BABY. THE CHET
FLIES FREE. YOU
HEAR ME?



YOU
MADE YOURSELF
QUITE CLEAR LAST
NIGHT, CHET. JUST LEAVE
ME ALONE.



OH...
I-- UM...
RIGHT.



















I MEAN I
HARDLY EVEN USED
MY MAGIC BEFORE THE
WHOLE CTHULHU THING.
AND I WAS JUST FINE. I
BOTTLED IT UP AND
IGNORED IT FOR THE
MOST PART.

A comic book panel featuring a character with long, flowing pink hair and a white headband. The character has a somber expression and is wearing a brown tunic with a red and white patterned shoulder guard. A speech bubble is positioned to the right of the character's head. The background consists of a light blue sky and a green hill.

THEN
FOR THE
FIRST TIME IT
WAS OKAY TO USE
IT, TO UNLEASH IT
ALL, AND THAT KIND
OF FELT GOOD, AND
NOW... IT'S GONE.



A comic book panel featuring a character with long, flowing pink hair and a purple complexion. The character is wearing a white headband with a red stripe and has a sword with a brown hilt and a silver blade tucked behind their back. They are looking upwards with a wide-eyed, surprised expression. The background consists of a light blue sky and green hills. A speech bubble is positioned above the character's head.

IT'S
LIKE A PART
OF ME LEFT
THAT I CAN
NEVER GET
BACK.





SEE
I TOLD YOU,
IT'S STUPID. I
SHOULDN'T CARE
ABOUT THIS.



IT'S
NOT
STUPID





GREN,
I CAN'T
PRETEND TO
KNOW WHAT IT'S
LIKE TO LOSE
WHAT YOU'VE
LOST.





EXCEPT
MAYBE WHEN
YOUR MOM TOOK
BACK THE BLACK
BLADE...



BUT I
DO KNOW A FEW
THINGS ABOUT DEALING
WITH CHANGE.

I KNOW
IT SUCKS. I KNOW
IT HURTS A LOT OF
THE TIME. I KNOW IT'S
CONFUSING AND
SCARY.



I ALSO
KNOW THAT IT
CAN SOMETIMES
BE THE BEST THING
THAT COULD EVER
HAPPEN TO YOU



I WON'T
TRY TO EXPLAIN
AWAY YOUR PAIN. I CAN'T.
YOU HAVE TO PULL THROUGH
THAT IN YOUR OWN TIME. BUT I
WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I'M
HERE FOR YOU.



YOU
DON'T HAVE
TO DO IT
ALONE.





THANKS

NEWMAN, THAT'S
REALLY

SWEET
SASSY MOLLASSY,
LOOK AT THAT
BOW!





HOLY CRAP,
WE MADE IT.
THESE ARE THE
WEAPONS OF THE
TWO LOVERS.











WITH THE
SEAL OF THE WEAPONS
REMOVED, OUR HEROES
FACE THEIR FINAL
CHALLENGE!





